



Introduced Version

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**HOUSE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_**

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**DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging that the diagnostic label of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder be changed to Post-Traumatic Stress Injury.

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**Hale, Macer, Judy, Kirchhofer,  
McNamara**

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\_\_\_\_\_, read first time and referred to Committee on

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20152766

2015

HC 1045/DI 84



## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging that the diagnostic label of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder be changed to Post-Traumatic Stress Injury.

*Whereas, The diagnosis now known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) was first defined to commonly and more accurately understand and treat veterans who had endured severe traumatic combat stress;*

*Whereas, Post-traumatic stress can result from any number of stressors other than combat, such as rape, sexual assault, battery, torture, confinement, child abuse, car accidents, train wrecks, plane crashes, bombings, or natural disaster, and affects about 7.7 million Americans;*

*Whereas, Post-traumatic stress can occur at any age, including childhood;*

*Whereas, Post-traumatic stress is characterized by numerous symptoms, including flashbacks, avoidance, hyper vigilance, nightmares, re-experiencing, anxiety, cognitive deficits, irritability, insomnia, fatigue, and thoughts of suicide;*

*Whereas, Due to these complications, those suffering often develop emotional numbness, leading to alienation and loss of interest in activities that were enjoyable in the past to them and their loved ones;*

*Whereas, Post-traumatic stress has previously been viewed*



*as a mental illness caused by a pre-existing flaw in the individual's brain or character;*

*Whereas, Many still believe post-traumatic stress is a disorder which the injured is faced living with for the remainder of his or her life;*

*Whereas, In fact, post-traumatic stress is a very common injury to the brain that is treatable and repairable;*

*Whereas, The term "PTSD" carries a stigma of misconceptions that the injury is a disorder that is not repairable or treatable;*

*Whereas, Referring to this injury as a disorder perpetuates the stigma of and bias against mental illness;*

*Whereas, This stigma discourages those suffering from post-traumatic stress from seeking proper medical treatment;*

*Whereas, Service members, veterans, first responders, and victims of abuse, crime, and disaster, as well as members of their families, see that the negative associations of having a psychological disorder keep some individuals from seeking treatment;*

*Whereas, Making the condition less stigmatizing and more honorable can increase the percentage of those affected who voluntarily seek help; and*

*Whereas, Timely treatment can diminish suicide rates among all citizens, particularly our younger veterans: Therefore,*

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives  
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,  
the Senate concurring:*

1       SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly agrees with those  
2 individuals and organizations urging that the diagnostic label of  
3 Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder be changed to Post-Traumatic Stress  
4 Injury.

5       SECTION 2. That the members of the Indiana General Assembly  
6 urge Governor Michael Pence to designate June 27, 2015, as "Indiana



1 Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day".  
2 SECTION 3. That the Principal Clerk of the House of  
3 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to Governor Michael  
4 Pence.

